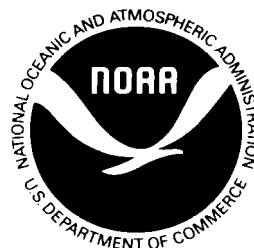


NE Multispecies Closed Area Regulations



Exemptions to the Gulf of Maine Seasonal, Cashes Ledge, Conditional, and Georges Bank multispecies closures are: vessels that do not have a Federal multispecies permit and are fishing exclusively in state waters; charter, party or recreational vessels; and vessels fishing with spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dip nets, stop nets, pound nets, pots and traps, purse seines, mid-water trawls, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, pelagic hook or longlines, pelagic gillnets, shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates), and sea scallop dredge gear. Charter and party vessels must have a letter of authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A letter of authorization is valid for a minimum of three months and is available by calling the permit office at 978-281-9278.

GULF OF MAINE SEASONAL ROLLING CLOSURE AREAS

► **Rolling Closure Area I** - Closed March 1 through March 31:

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM1	42 00'	(1)
GM2	42 00'	(2)
GM3	42 00'	(3)
GM5	42 00'	68 30'
GM6	42 30'	68 30'
GM9	42 30'	(1)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

► **Rolling Closure Area II** - Closed April 1 through April 30:

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM1	42 00'	(1)
GM2	42 00'	(2)
GM3	42 00'	(3)
GM5	42 00'	68 30'
GM13	43 00'	68 30'
GM10	43 00'	(4)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

4 New Hampshire shoreline.

► **Rolling Closure Area III - Closed May 1 through May 31:**

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM9	42 30'	(1)
GM6	42 30'	68 30'
GM14	43 30'	68 30'
GM18	43 30'	(2)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Maine shoreline.

► **Rolling Closure Area IV - Closed June 1 through June 30:**

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM10	43 00'	(1)
GM11	43 00'	70 00'
GM17	43 30'	70 00'
GM19	43 30'	(2)
GM20	44 00'	(2)
GM21	44 00'	69 00'
GM22	(3)	69 00'

1 New Hampshire shoreline.

2 U.S. - Canada maritime boundary.

3 Maine shoreline.

► **Rolling Closure Area V - Closed October 1 through November 30:**

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM1	42 00'	(1)
GM2	42 00'	(2)
GM3	42 00'	(3)
GM4	42 00'	70 00'
GM8	42 30'	70 00'
GM9	42 30'	(1)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

► **Rolling Closure Area VI - Closed February 1 through February 29, 2000:**

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM1	42 00'	(1)
GM2	42 00'	(2)
GM3	42 00'	(3)
GM4	42 00'	70 00'
GM8	42 30'	70 00'
GM9	42 30'	(1)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

CASHES LEDGE CLOSURE AREA

- **Cashes Ledge Closure Area** - Closed July 1 - October 31:

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
CL1	43 07'	69 02'
CL2	42 49.5'	68 46'
CL3	42 46.5'	68 50.5'
CL4	42 43.5'	68 58.5'
CL5	42 42.5'	69 17.5'
CL6	42 49.5'	69 26'
CL1	43 07'	69 02'

CONDITIONAL GULF OF MAINE CLOSURE AREAS

- **Massachusetts Bay - Stellwagon Bank Conditional Closure Area** - Closed January 1 through January 31:

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GM1	42 00'	(1)
GM2	42 00'	(2)
GM3	42 00'	(3)
GM4	42 00'	70 00'
GM8	42 30'	70 00'
GM9	42 30'	(1)

1 Massachusetts shoreline.

2 Cape Cod shoreline on Cape Cod Bay.

3 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

- **Cashes Ledge Closure Area** - Closed November 1 - November 30:

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
CL1	43 07'	69 02'
CL2	42 49.5'	68 46'
CL3	42 46.5'	68 50.5'
CL4	42 43.5'	68 58.5'
CL5	42 42.5'	69 17.5'
CL6	42 49.5'	69 26'
CL1	43 07'	69 02'

GEORGES BANK SEASONAL CLOSURE AREA

With the exception of scallop dredge gear, the same gear exemptions found on page 1, also apply to the Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area described below. For the purposes of the Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area only, vessels fishing with scallop dredge gear when fishing under a scallop DAS or when fishing in the Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Area, provided that the vessel uses an 8-inch twine top and complies with other applicable multispecies possession limits. The area is as follows:

- **Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area** - Closed May 1 through May 31:

<u>Point</u>	<u>N. Latitude</u>	<u>W. Longitude</u>
GB1	42°00'	(1)
GB2	42°00'	67°20'
GB3	41°30'	67°20'

GB4	41°30'	69°23'
GB5	41°2.8' ⁽²⁾	69°00'
GB6	41°00'	69°00'
GB7	41°00'	70°00'
GB1	42°00'	(1)

1 Cape Cod shoreline on the Atlantic Ocean.

2 Western Boundary of Closed Area I.

YEAR ROUND CLOSED AREAS

- **Western GOM Area Closure** - Charter, party or recreational vessels; and vessels fishing with spears, rakes, diving gear, cast nets, tongs, harpoons, weirs, dip nets, stop nets, pound nets, pots and traps, purse seines, mid-water trawls, surf clam/quahog dredge gear, pelagic hook or longlines, pelagic gillnets, and shrimp trawls (with properly configured grates). Charter and party vessels must have a letter of authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A letter of authorization is valid for a minimum of three months and is available by calling the permit office at 978-281-9278.

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
WGM1	42 15'	70 15
WGM2	42 15'	69 55'
WGM3	43 15'	69 55'
WGM4	43 15'	70 15'
WGM1	42 15'	70 15

- **Closed Area I** - Exceptions to the closure are vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook or longline gear, harpoon gear, and mid-water trawl gear .

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
CI1	41 30'	69 23'
CI2	40 45'	68 45'
CI3	40 45'	68 30'
CI4	41 30'	68 30'
CI1	41 30'	69 23'

- **Closed Area II** - Exceptions to the closure are vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook or longline gear, harpoon gear, and mid-water trawl gear.

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
CII1	41 00'	67 20'
CII2	41 00'	66 35.8'
G5	41 18.6'	66 24.8' (the U.S.- Canada Maritime Boundary)
CII3	42 22'	67 20' (the U.S.- Canada Maritime Boundary)
CII1	41 00'	67 20'

- **Nantucket Lightship Closed Area** - Exceptions to the closure are vessels fishing with or using pot gear designed to take lobsters or hagfish, pelagic hook or longline gear, harpoon gear, mid-water trawl gear, surf clam/quahog dredge gear and charter, party or recreational vessels. Charter and party vessels must have a letter of authorization from the Regional Administrator to enter or fish in this area. A letter of authorization may be obtained by calling the permit office at 978-281-9278.

Point	N. Latitude	W. Longitude
G10	40 50'	69 00'
CN1	40 20'	69 00'
CN2	40 20'	70 20'
CN3	40 50'	70 20'
G10	40 50'	69 00'

TRANSITING REGULATIONS

- ▶ **Multispecies Seasonal GOM Rolling Closures, Cashes Ledge Closure, Conditional GOM Closure Areas, Georges Bank Seasonal Closures, Western GOM Closed Area, Nantucket Lightship Closed Area and Closed Area I:** Vessels may transit these areas during the closure periods, provided that the gear is stowed in accordance with the regulations summarized below.
- ▶ **Closed Area II:** Vessels may transit Closed Area II for safety reasons, provided the operator has determined that there is a compelling safety reason and that fishing gear is stowed in accordance with the regulations summarized below.

GEAR STOWAGE REQUIREMENTS

Trawl Gear:

A net stowed below deck provided: it is located below the main working deck from which the net is deployed and retrieved; the towing wires, including the leg wires, are detached from the net; and it is fan-folded (flaked) and bound around its circumference.

or

A net stowed and lashed down on deck, provided: it is fan-folded (flaked) and bound around its circumference; it is securely fastened to the deck or rail of the vessel; and the towing wires, including the leg wires, are detached from the net.

or

On-reel stowage for vessels transiting the GOM Rolling Closure Areas, Conditional GOM Rolling Closure Area, and the Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area - A net that is on a reel and is covered and secured, provided: the entire surface of the net is covered with canvas or other similar material that is securely bound; the towing wires are detached from the doors; and no containment rope, codend tripping device, or other mechanism to close off the codend is attached to the codend.

or

- ***On-reel stowage for vessels transiting the Western GOM Closure Area, Cashes Ledge Closure Area, Closed Area I, and the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area*** - A net that is on a reel and is covered and secured, provided: the entire surface of the net is covered with canvas or other similar material that is securely bound; the towing wires are detached from the net; and the codend is removed and stored below deck.

or

Nets that are secured in a manner authorized in writing by the Regional Administrator.

Scallop Dredges:

The towing wire is detached from the scallop dredge, the towing wire is reeled up onto the winch, and the dredge is secured and covered so that it is rendered unusable for fishing.

Hook Gear: (other than pelagic)

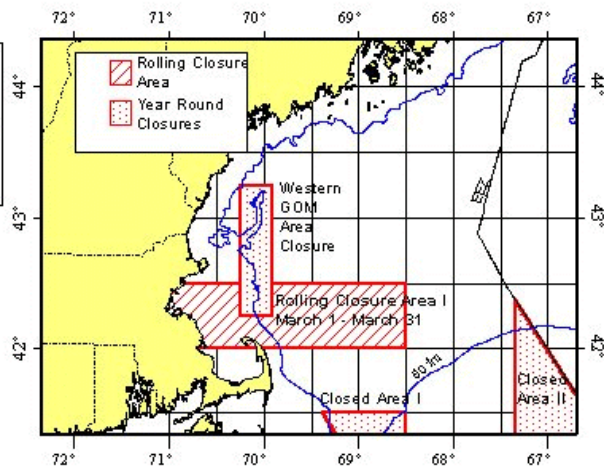
All anchors and buoys are secured and all hook gear, including jigging machines, is covered.

Sink Gillnet Gear:

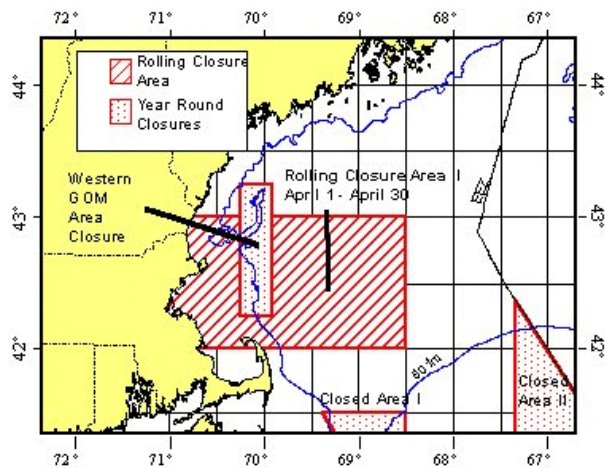
All nets are covered with canvas or other similar material and lashed or otherwise securely fastened to the deck or rail, and all buoys larger than 6 inches (15.24 cm) in diameter, high flyers, and anchors are disconnected .

Gulf of Maine Rolling Closure Areas

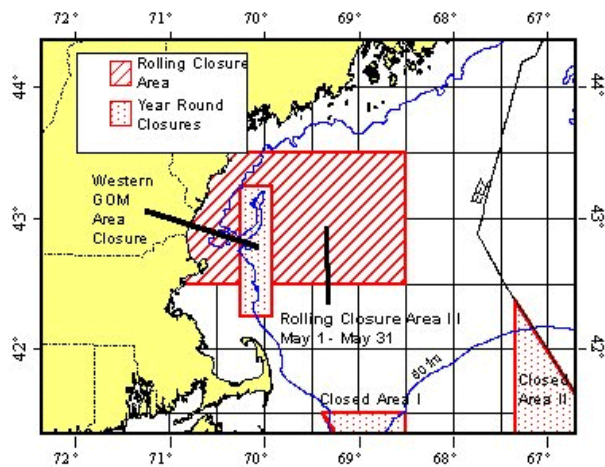
Rolling Closure Area I
March 1 - March 31



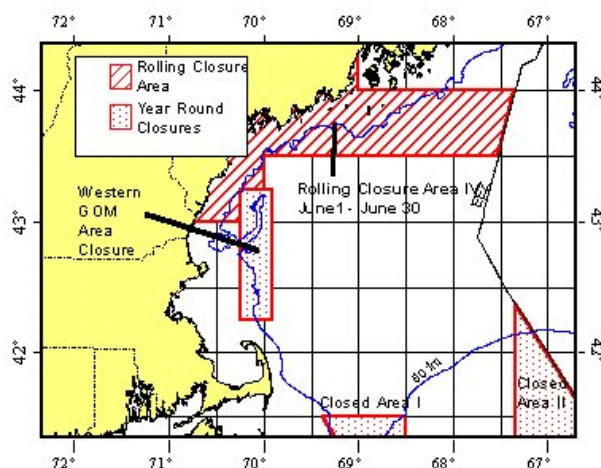
Rolling Closure Area II
April 1 - April 30



Rolling Closure Area III
May 1 - May 31



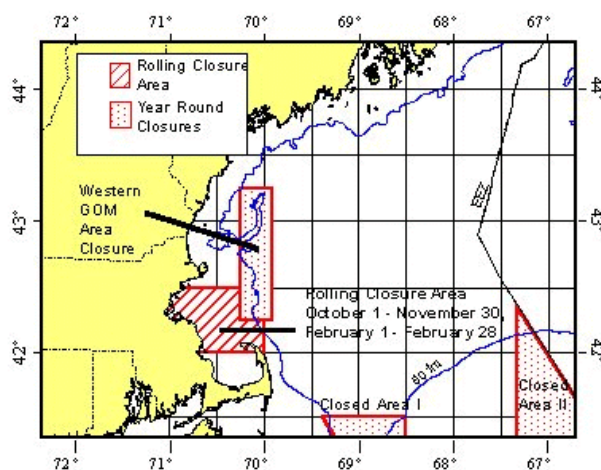
**Rolling Closure Area IV
June 1 - June 30**



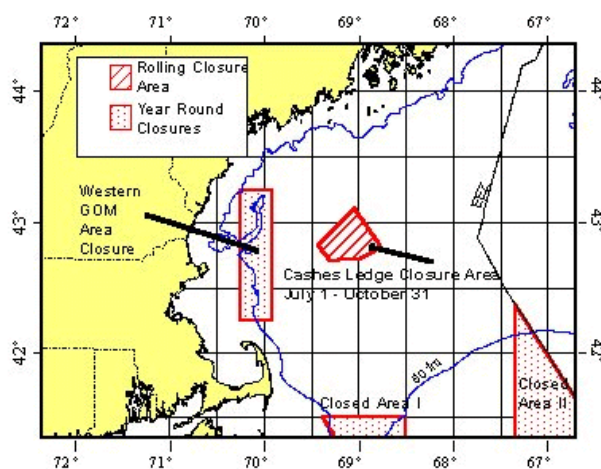
**Rolling Closure Area V
October 1 - November 30**

and

**Rolling Closure Area VI
February 1 - February 28**



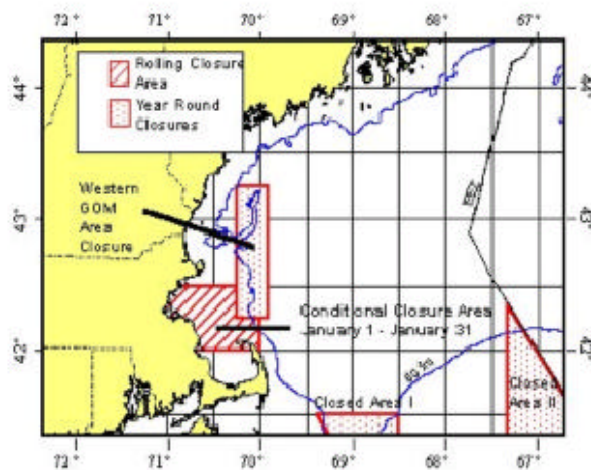
**Cashes Ledge Closure Area
July 1 - October 31**



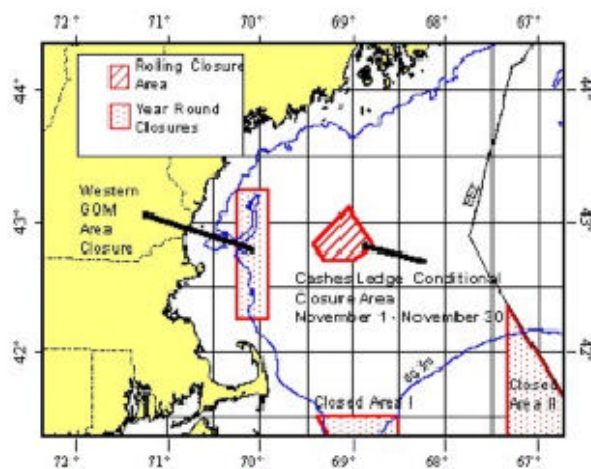
Conditional Gulf of Maine Closure Areas

Massachusetts Bay - Stellwagen Bank Conditional Closure Area

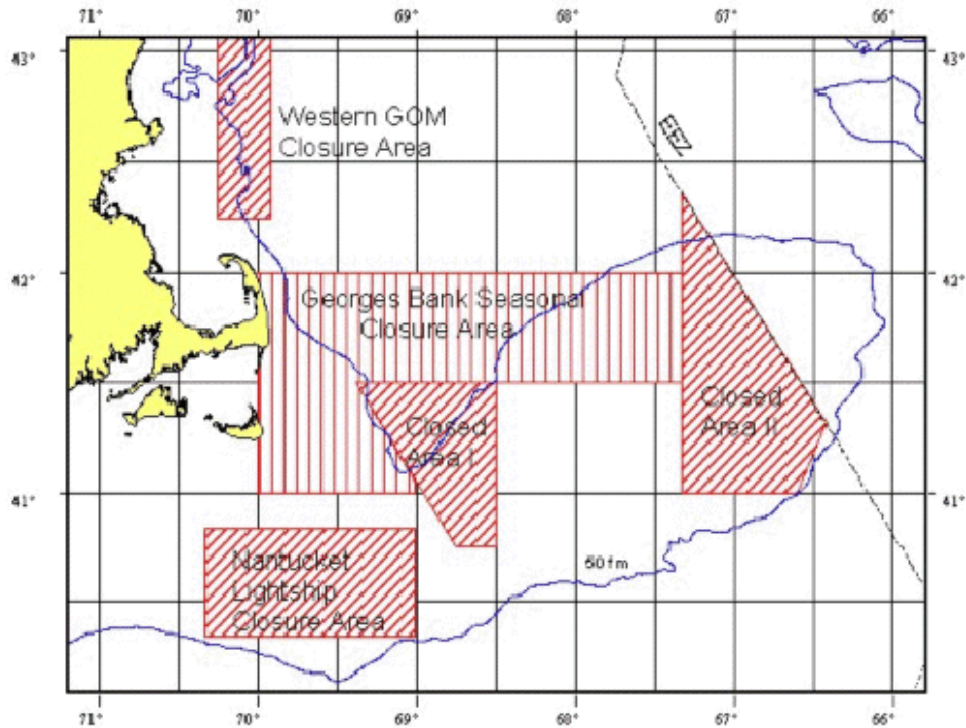
January 1 - January 31



Cashes Ledge Conditional Closure Area November 1 - November 30



**Georges Bank Seasonal Closure Area
May 1 - May 31
and
Year Round Closed Areas**



This is a simplified summary of the measures in effect under the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. This summary has no legal standing. You should request a copy of the official rules as published in the Federal Register.